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OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.
Secretary to the Commission

VOLUME 11. Part 8. Pp. 129—138

OPINION 358

Designation, under the Plenary Powers, of a type species in harmony with accustomed usage for the genus *Mortonella* Pomel, 1883 (Class Echinoidea), a genus based on a misidentified type species

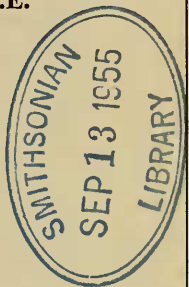
LONDON :

Printed by Order of the International Trust for
Zoological Nomenclature
and

Sold on behalf of the International Commission on Zoological
Nomenclature by the International Trust at its Publications Office
41, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7
1955

Price Five Shillings

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN OPINION 358

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Vice-President : Senhor Dr. Afranio do Amaral (*Sao Paulo, Brazil*) (12th August 1953).

Secretary : Mr. Francis Hemming (*London, England*) (27th July 1948).

B. The Members of the Commission

(*Arranged in order of precedence by reference to date of election or of most recent re-election, as prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology.*)

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Mr. Francis HEMMING (*London, England*) (27th July 1948) (*Secretary*).

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Professor Teiso ESAKI (*Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan*) (17th April 1950).

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Professor Béla HANKÓ (*Mezőgazdasági Múzeum, Budapest, Hungary*) (12th August 1953).

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Mr. P. C. SYLVESTER-BRADLEY (*Sheffield University, Sheffield, England*) (12th August 1953).

Dr. L. B. HOLTHUIS (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*) (12th August 1953).

OPINION 358

DESIGNATION, UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS, OF A TYPE SPECIES IN HARMONY WITH ACCUSTOMED USAGE FOR THE GENUS "MORTONELLA" POMEL, 1883 (CLASS ECHINOIDEA), A GENUS BASED UPON A MISIDENTIFIED TYPE SPECIES

RULING :—(1) Under the procedure prescribed for determining the type species of genera established with misidentified type species the Plenary Powers are hereby used (a) to set aside all designations or selections of type species for the nominal genus *Mortonella* Pomel, 1883 (Class Echinoidea) made prior to the present Ruling, and (b) to designate the nominal species *Scutella quinquefaria* Say, 1825, to be the type species of the foregoing genus.

(2) The under-mentioned generic name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 881 :—*Mortonella* Pomel, 1883 (gender : feminine) (type species, by designation under the Plenary Powers under (1)(b) above : *Scutella quinquefaria* Say, 1825).

(3) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 498 :—*quinquefaria* Say, 1825, as published in the combination *Scutella quinquefaria* (specific name of type species of *Mortonella* Pomel, 1883, by designation under the Plenary Powers under (1)(b) above).

(4) The under-mentioned generic name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 298 :—*Mortonia* Desor, 1858 (a junior homonym of *Mortonia* Gray (J.E.), [1852]).

I.—THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On 21st December 1951 Professor J. Wyatt Durham (*University of California, Berkeley, California, U.S.A.*) submitted, through Professor Raymond C. Moore (*University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, U.S.A.*) a preliminary enquiry as to the species to be accepted as the type species of the genus *Mortonella* Pomel, 1883 (Class Echinoidea), a genus considered to have been based upon a misidentified type species. Following correspondence with the Secretary, Professor Durham on 3rd March 1952 submitted the following application for the consideration of the Commission :—

Proposed use of the Plenary Powers to designate as the type species of the genus "Mortonella" Pomel, 1883 (Class Echinoidea), a genus based upon a misidentified type species, the species intended as such by the original author

By J. WYATT DURHAM

(*University of California, Department of Paleontology, Berkeley, California, U.S.A.*)

1. The purpose of the present application is to ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to use its Plenary Powers, under the procedure laid down by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 158—159), for the purpose of designating, as the type species of the genus *Mortonella* Pomel, 1883 (Class Echinoidea), a genus based upon a misidentified type species, the species intended to be the type species by the original author of the genus. A decision on this case is urgently required in connection with the preparation of the forthcoming *Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology*, and it is particularly hoped, therefore, that the International Commission will give all practicable priority to the consideration of this case.

2. The facts of this case are as follows. In 1858 (*Syn. Echin. foss.* : 231) Desor established a new nominal genus to which he gave the name *Mortonia*. Desor placed in this genus one species only, which is, therefore, the type species by monotypy. That species was cited by Desor as *Mortonia rogersi* Morton (= *Scutella rogersi* Morton, 1834, *Syn. organ. Remains cret.* : 77, pl. 13, fig. 3). It is perfectly clear that the species to which Desor applied the above name was not the true *Scutella rogersi* Morton, 1834, but the quite distinct species *Scutella quinquefaria* Say, 1825 (*J. Acad. nat. Sci. Philad.* (1)5 : 228), which

already in 1841 (*Mon. echinoid.*, Sec. Mon. des Scutelles : 85, pl. 19a, figs. 1—4) had been misidentified by Agassiz with Morton's *Scutella rogersi*. That the same misidentification was made by Desor in 1858 is clear (a) from the diagnosis (reading in part "sillons ambulacraires de la face inférieure anastomosés deux fois"—, (b) from his reference to Agassiz' figures, and (c) from his description (reading in part "cinq tubes buccaux venant s'ouvrir sur le pourtout du peristome") which he gave for the single included species, a description which is appropriate for *Scutella quinquefaria* Say but is quite unsuitable for *Scutella rogersi* Morton, which has unbranched ambulacral food grooves and no apparent buccal tubes.

3. In 1883 (*Class. méth. gén. Échin. viv. foss.* : 70) Pomel recognised that the name *Mortonia* Desor, 1858, was invalid, it being a junior homonym of *Mortonia* Gray [1851] (*Proc. zool. Soc. Lond.* 19 : 38), and he accordingly gave to Desor's *Mortonia* the new name *Mortonella*.

4. Clark and Twitchell (1915, *U.S. Geol. Survey, Mon.* 54 : 136—138) were the first authors to recognise that two species had hitherto been confused under the name "*Scutella rogersi* Morton". They accordingly separated these two species in their monograph, placing the species which Agassiz (1841) and Desor (1858) had misidentified as *Scutella rogersi* Morton in the genus *Mortonella* Pomel, and the true *Scutella rogersi* Morton in the genus *Clypeaster* Berthold, 1827.

5. All systematists who have recognised the genus *Mortonella* Pomel (*Mortonia* Desor) have treated it in the sense of Desor, that is, as a genus having as its type species the species for which the proper name is *Scutella quinquefaria* Say, 1825.

6. If it were necessary under the *Règles* to assume that Desor's determination of *Scutella rogersi* Morton was correct, the genus *Mortonella* Pomel, auct. would be left without a name, while the name *Mortonella* Pomel (*Mortonia* Desor) would be applicable to a clypeastroid echinoid, in a sense in which it has never been used by any systematist. Such action would run directly counter to Desor's intentions and would be open to the strongest objection, in that it would involve the acceptance as the type species of this genus of a species agreeing neither with the original generic diagnosis nor with Desor's description of the sole species included by him in the genus.

7. The generic name *Mortonella* Pomel (*Mortonia* Desor) has been widely used by systematists (see Mortensen, 1948, *Mon. Echinoidea* 4(2) : 391) who have considered the Tertiary echinoids of the South-eastern United States, for the species figured (incorrectly) by Agassiz (1841) as *Scutella rogersi* Morton and its relatives, and it has never been

used in any other sense. Consequently, confusion rather than uniformity would result if it were now necessary to assume that Desor correctly identified Morton's species.

8. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is therefore now asked :—

- (1) under the procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology for determining the type species of a genus based upon a misidentified type species, to use its Plenary Powers (a) to set aside all designations or selections of type species for the genus *Mortonella* Pomel, 1883, made prior to the proposed decision, and (b) to designate *Scutella quinquefaria* Say, 1825, to be the type species of the foregoing genus ;
- (2) to place the generic name *Mortonella* Pomel, 1883 (gender of generic name : feminine) (type species, as proposed in (1) above to be designated under the Plenary Powers : *Scutella quinquefaria* Say, 1825) on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* ;
- (3) to place the trivial name *quinquefaria* Say, 1825, as published in the combination *Scutella quinquefaria*, on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology* ;
- (4) to place the generic name *Mortonia* Desor, 1858 (a junior homonym of *Mortonia* Gray [1852]), on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology*.

II.—THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

2. Registration of the present application : Upon the receipt of Professor Durham's preliminary communication, the question of the species to be accepted as the type species of the genus *Mortonella* Pomel, 1883, was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 639.

3. Publication of the present application : The present application was sent to the printer on 7th April 1952 and was published

on 22nd May 1952 in Part 6 of volume 6 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (Durham, 1952, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 6 : 168—169).

4. Issue of Public Notices : Under the revised procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 51—56), Public Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was given on 22nd May 1952 (a) in Part 6 of volume 6 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (the Part in which Professor Durham's application was published) and (b) to the other prescribed serial publications. In addition, such Public Notice was given also to certain general zoological serial publications and to a number of palaeontological serials in Europe and America.

5. No objection received : The issue of the Public Notices specified in paragraph 4 above elicited no objection to the action proposed to be taken in the present case.

III.—THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

6. Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(54)23 : On 6th March 1954, a Voting Paper (V.P.(54)23) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, " the proposal that the Commission should express itself as satisfied that the genus *Mortonella* Pomel, 1883 (= *Mortonia* Desor, 1858) was based upon a misidentified type species and therefore that approval should be given to the proposals set out in paragraph 8 on page 169 of volume 6 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* " [i.e. in paragraph 8 of the application reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Opinion*].

7. The Prescribed Voting Period : As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 6th June 1954.

8. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(54)23 : The state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(54)23 at the close of the Prescribed Voting Period was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following eighteen (18) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Holthuis ; Hering ; Riley ; Lemche ; Vokes ; do Amaral ; Esaki ; Sylvester-Bradley ; Dymond ; Bonnet ; Boschma ; Mertens ; Pearson ; Hemming ; Bradley (J.C.) ; Hankó ; Stoll ; Cabrera ;

(b) *Negative Votes :*

None ;

(c) *Voting Paper not returned, one (1) :*

Jaczewski.¹

9. Declaration of Result of Vote : On 7th June 1954 Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(54)23, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 8 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

10. Preparation of the Ruling given in the present “ Opinion ” : On 16th February 1955 Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling

¹ After the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, an affirmative vote was received (on 1st July 1954) from Commissioner Jaczewski.

given in the present *Opinion* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(54)23.

11. Original References : The following are the original references for the names placed on *Official Lists* and *Official Indexes* by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

Mortonella Pomel, 1883, *Class. méth. gén. Echin. viv. foss.* : 70
Mortonia Desor, 1858, *Syn. Echin. foss.* : 231
quinquefaria, *Scutella*, Say, 1825, *J. Acad. nat. Sci. Philad.* (1)
5 : 228

12. Family-group-name aspects : It has been ascertained that the generic name *Mortonella* Pomel, 1883, has not been taken as the base for a family-group name. Accordingly, no family-group-name problem arises in the present case.

13. At the time of the submission of the application dealt with in the present *Opinion*, the expression prescribed for the second portion of the binomen which constitutes the scientific name of a species was the expression “trivial name” and the *Official List* reserved for recording such names was styled the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*, the word “trivial” appearing also in the title of the *Official Index* reserved for recording rejected and invalid names of this category. Under a decision taken by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, the expression “specific name” was substituted for the expression “trivial name” and corresponding changes were made in the titles of the *Official List* and *Official Index* of such names (1953, *Copenhagen Decisions zool. Nomencl.* : 21). The changes in terminology so adopted have been incorporated in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*.

14. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in

dealing with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

15. The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion* Three Hundred and Fifty-eight (358) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Sixteenth day of February, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Five.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING